

Wing Tips

108th Air Refueling Wing
New Jersey Air National Guard
December 2003 Volume 3 Issue 12



Recruiting and Retention is Job 1

By Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison
Wing Tips Staff Writer

With the Armed Forces constantly on the search for “A few good men” and “An Army of One,” the New Jersey Air National Guard has a challenge of finding people to “fuel their future” by either enlisting or re-enlisting in the Guard.

In order to improve recruiting and retention, the 108th Air Refueling Wing created the Recruiting and Retention Committee. Two maintenance officers from the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron serve as chairman and vice-chairman- Maj. Patrick Kennedy and Maj. Mike Smith, respectively.

The committee, composed of Kennedy, Smith, Senior Master Sgt. Tony Owens, and Master Sgts. Vinnie Mazza, Frank Beltran-Bell and Robert Tibbetts, along with other representatives throughout the wing, has worked with a variety of ideas and programs they hope will bring new members to the 108th and keep current members in the wing.

Some of the initiatives include:

- The Moorestown Mall Recruiting Office: This offsite recruiting office will provide a strategic location for Air National Guard recruiters to interact with members of the community and provide information on the benefits available to members of the New Jersey Air National Guard. If you would like to volunteer at the mall office, please contact Maj. Alfreda Borden-Ealy in MPF at 609-754-6081.
- Polo shirts: Wing members who are part of the strength teams who visit fairs, schools and participate other public events will have special polo shirts to wear.

- Letter from the governor: The team is preparing a letter from the governor that will be presented to wing members who have served 20 years or more thanking them for their service.

- Portable recruiting kit: The public affairs and recruiting office have posters, pamphlets, CDs and laptops for use when going to a recruiting event such as a job fair or school. If you would like more information about these kits contact Senior Master Sgt. Tony Owens, 609-562-0906 or Master Sgt. Robert Tibbetts, 856-778-3362.

- Center of Influence event: On Feb. 11, 2004 more than 300 guidance counselors, teachers, and principals from New Jersey high schools, colleges and other schools have been invited to attend an event at the wing to learn more about what the NJANG has to offer.

- Trailer: The 108th has a trailer, that will soon be stenciled with designs, that can be towed to events. Maj. Kennedy noted that the graphic designs will be done with the in-house skills of Tech. Sgt. Ed Lowden.

Kennedy and Smith said that their main job as chairmen of the committee was to help steer people who come in with ideas; they help obtain funding for the projects and coordinate additional support as needed.

Most wing members see Master Sgt. Frank Beltran-Bell, the 108th Retention Office Manager, when they come to the re-enlistment/extension ceremony on Saturday of the drills. One of his “fun” jobs is to hand out the gifts that the newly re-enlisted airmen receive at the end of the ceremony.

“We know that members don’t re-enlist because of the gifts,” said Beltran-Bell. “They re-enlist because we, the wing, are meeting their goals and expectations. They are being treated right and want to make a difference.”

He admits that the gifts are the icing on the cake, that the reenlistments and extensions wouldn’t happen without the work centers supervisors providing the attention, education and support to their people.

As a retention initiative, the wing is holding a newcomers’ briefing once a quarter. This is for all individuals, both new to the guard and for prior service. They receive briefings from the wing commander, command chief, safety, finance, military equal opportunity, human resources, public affairs and, of course, Beltran-Bell.

The wing is currently at approximately 96 percent strength and is working hard to reach the goal of 100 percent by March 1, 2004.



Burkel and Johnson Hit the Mark!!

By Lt. Col. Andy Kuhtik
108 ARW Marksmanship Team Captain

Master Sgt. Joe Burkel and Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Johnson, members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing Marksmanship Team, both took first place honors within their classification at the New Jersey Service Rifle Championships on Nov. 15, 2003. The

championship match was held at the Cumberland Rifleman Range in Vineland, N.J.

The team has been putting in extra range time recently, which contributed to these outstanding results. Burkel shot a 759-17X to take first place in the expert classification. Johnson shot a 748-16X to top the marksman classification.

Additionally, the newest member of the team shooting in his first high-power rifle match, Tech. Sgt. Dan Grimes, shot a 719-4X, an outstanding score for a "new shooter."



Burke assumes the prone position and prepares to shoot.



Grimes puts the target within his sights.



Johnson clears the chamber of his rifle.

Front and Center

Name: Jessica Hendrickson

Rank: Airman 1st Class

Age: 18

Time in service: 6 months in the 108 ARW

Job in the 108th: Graphic Artist

Job in the civilian world: Student, cashier and babysitter

Family: Mom, Yumi, Dad, John, and brothers, Aaron and Ian

Favorite food: Fettuccini Alfredo

Last movie seen: "Fight Club"

Favorite Actors: Brad Pitt and Johnny Depp

Favorite TV show: "The Simpsons" and "Futurama"

Favorite author: R.A. Salvatore

Favorite music group: Metallica

Favorite sports team: Yankees

What I do with my spare time: Hang out with friends and travel

Person I most look up to: My dad

Dream vacation: The Virgin Islands

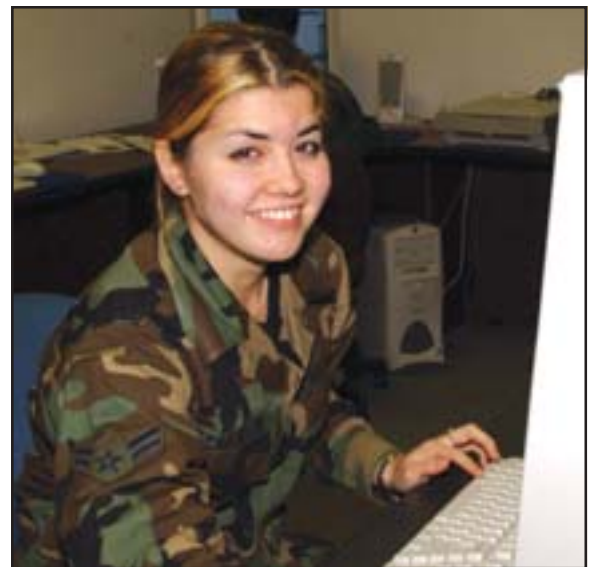
Dream car: Ferrari Maranello

My goal is: To one day be able to create special effects

Words I live by: "Carpe Diem" (seize the day)

Pet peeve: The phrase "it's half past a freckle"

What I like most about the 108 ARW: My unit



Odds and Ends

Chaplains needed

HELP! Our wing needs a new priest, and possibly a new rabbi. (We miss Father Alphonse and Rabbi Bindell!) All wing members are urged to ask their favorite priest, rabbi or pastor to consider joining our chapel staff. Any potential candidates may call any of our recruiters, 1-866-GO-NJANG or Father Alphonse at State Joint Headquarters, 609-562-0963.

Come fly with us!

The 108th Air Refueling Wing has resumed its orientation flight program. New unit members, spouses of military members, and civilian employers of Guard members are invited to participate in an air refueling mission. To apply, visit Y:/show/108pa/flight requests for the applicable form. Submit forms to 108ARW/PA via email: pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil or by fax at 609-754-4460.

MAD FUUN events

The "Making A Difference" For Uniformed Unity (MAD FUUN) Committee is sponsoring a Jan. UTA event at Dave & Busters. Dave & Busters is the adult version of a video arcade, that includes a restaurant, bar and room full of arcade games. This MAD FUUN event will be held on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2004.

As one of the 108th Recruiting and Retention initiatives, the "Making A Difference" program is designed to help inspire 108th members to promote recruiting and retention in the wing. It is intended to raise morale, build new relationships and expand upon existing relationships. It is also an alternative to going home or staying in billeting on Saturday evenings and to unify our Guard family through a night of socializing with FUUN.

Currently, FUUN is looking for members from each squadron within the 108 ARW who might be interested in helping with this program. For more information on MAD FUUN or the Jan. UTA event, contact Tech. Sgt. Monica Holder at 609-754-3489 or via email at monica.holder@njmcgu.af.mil.

2004 Scholarship Award Program

The National Guard Association of New Jersey is sponsoring the 2004 Scholarship Award Program. Completed applications may be submitted between Feb. 1 and March 15, 2004 to:

NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY
ATTN CW4 RET JACK STOFFA
101 EGGERTCROSSING ROAD
LAWRENCEVILLE NJ 08648

Applications are available at the NGANJ Web site: www.nganj.org.

Wing Tips deadlines

The deadline for January *Wing Tips* is Dec. 29. Articles/photos should be emailed to: pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil. Please ensure digital photos are a minimum of 400 dpi, and send the raw file, do not alter it. Photos and graphics need to be in .jpg or .tif format. Articles must be in Word format. Deadline for Feb. *Wing Tips* is Jan. 27 and March *Wing Tips* is Feb. 22.

What's happening

December

Dec. 20-27	Hanukkah
Dec. 22	First Day of Winter
Dec. 25	Christmas
Dec. 26-Jan. 1	Kwanzaa

January

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Jan. 19	Martin Luther King Day

February

Feb. 14	Valentine's Day
Feb. 16	Presidents' Day

Vacancy Announcements

Human Resources Advisor

The 108th Air Refueling Wing has a vacancy for a human resource advisor. Applicant must be a senior master sgt. or promotable master sgt.

Duty related questions should be directed to 108th Wing Human Resources Advisor, Chief Master Sgt. Rocky Ryan, 609-754-8194 or email roxanne.ryan@njmcgu.af.mil. For a copy of the job announcement or questions/comments about the application/selection process, contact Major Michael Baldi at 609-754-5051. The completed application package must be submitted to the 108 ARW Director of Staff, Major Baldi, NLT close of business Jan. 13, 2004 or mail to 3327 CHARLES BLVD, MCGUIRE AFB, NJ 08641-5406 or in person to Bldg 3305 on Fiebelkorn Rd.

Civil Support Team

Headquarters New Jersey Air National Guard has two E-6 enlisted vacancies: Survey Team NBC Chief & Assistant Ops/Tng NCO on the New Jersey National Guard's 21st Civil Support Team. These are TRADITIONAL GUARD positions.

The 21st CST is a joint NJANG/NJARNG organization with a military support to civil authorities (MSCA) mission. Enlisted individuals with experience in emergency management, the incident command system, hazardous materials, fire/police science, chemical/physical science, information management, and/or computer science are encouraged to apply. Interested individuals must hold a minimum grade of E-5, possess a 5 or 7-level AFSC and be worldwide mobility qualified without restrictions.

To be considered, forward a resume with references and supervisor and commander endorsements to ATTN COL STRAUB, HQ NJANG, 3650 SAYLORS POND RD, FORT DIX, NJ 08640. For more information, contact Col. Hank Straub at 609-562-0914 or Capt. Andy Mattson at 718-615-7213.

Food for Thought

From the desk of Maj. Jacqueline Veasey
108 MSG Executive Officer

Health and fitness are cornerstones of a mission-ready Air Force. While preparing for the new Fit to Fight program, airmen are encouraged to combine a well-balanced diet with their exercise plan.

Unhealthy eating habits include:

- Skipping meals, which lowers metabolism
- Not choosing foods from all four food groups throughout the day
- Using fad diets to lose weight

The first step to improving eating habits is to write down everything you eat during the day and when you eat it. This allows you to assess your eating habits

and see what you can improve.

Eating smaller meals throughout the day helps maintain energy. Switching to healthier snacks is also a good idea.

A health-conscious diet includes:

- Whole-grain breads, cereals, rice, pasta
- Plenty of fruits and vegetables
- Low-fat dairy products
- Lean meats

The USDA's Food Guide Pyramid can help you develop healthy eating habits and balance your diet. Log on to <http://www.nal.usda.gov:8001/py/pmap.htm>.



Last Chance for the Thrift Savings Plan open season!

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER – Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change their Thrift Savings Plan contribution amounts during the “open season” now through Dec. 31, 2003. Questions should be directed to Master Sgt. Jennifer Noble-Slaton, 108 MPF, 609-754-6073.

Effective Jan. 2004, TSP statements will not be automatically mailed to all TSP participants. Future quarterly statements will only be mailed to participants who request to have the statements mailed to them. Otherwise, the statements will be available on the TSP Web site. For additional information, visit the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov>.

Check pay records online with myPay

When accessing your pay records through myPay, please ensure you use the proper Web site. The official myPay Web site is <https://mypay.dfas.mil/>. The “.mil” domain is the only way to ensure secure access to your pay records. Any “.com” domains have nothing to do with your official DoD

W-2 forms

Military myPay users and DFAS civilian employees who access myPay must log on to myPay in order to receive the electronic version of their W-2 forms.

The online W-2 version:

- Is acceptable for all tax purposes
- Allows users to view, print and save
- Will be available for National Guard members no earlier than Dec. 26, 2003, but not later than Jan. 1, 2004, Military Retirees no earlier than Jan. 1, 2004 and not later than Jan. 5, 2004 and for DoD civilians no earlier than Dec. 24, 2003, and not later than Dec. 29, 2003.

Wing Tips on 3 Web sites

Wing Tips is now accessible to unit members, retirees, and the public on three different Web sites.

It will be placed on the following public Web sites – <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mcguireairguardians> and <http://www.108arw.af.mil>.

Unit members will also find it on the members-only Web site at <https://108mbr.af.mil>.

Printed color copies will be distributed to buildings 3305, 3306, 3324, 3333, 3369, 3390 and 1818.

108th Air Refueling Wing Editorial Staff

Col. Michael L. Cunniff.....	Commander
Maj. Denise Waggoner.....	Community Manager
Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison.....	<i>Wing Tips</i> Staff Writer
Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz.....	<i>Wing Tips</i> Editor
Senior Airman Song Han.....	Information Specialist
108th Multimedia Section.....	Photographic Support

108 ARW, ATTN PAO, 3305 FIEBELKORN ROAD, MCGUIRE AFB, NJ 08641-5406; 609-754-4173; fax 609-754-4460. E-mail can be sent to pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of *Wing Tips* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 108th Air Refueling Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Boom Box



Col. Michael Cunniff, 108 ARW/CC, presents plaques to (below) the Senior NCO of the Quarter, Master Sgt. Daniel Knapp, 141 ARS, and (left) to the NCO of the Quarter, Staff Sgt. Nehemie Juleus, 108 CES.



Col. Michael Cunniff, 108 ARW/CC, pins new rank on Master Sgt. Jill Moore (above), 108 COMM, and Master Sgt. Donald Rhodes (below), 108 COMM.

KUDOS

To Master Sgt. William Garenia, who successfully completed the Senior Non-commissioned Officer Academy via correspondence in October 2003.

Have you, or someone you know, recently received an award, certificate or recognition for your accomplishments? If you would like to be recognized in *Wing Tips*, please send a short description of the accomplishment and, if possible, a photo (min. 400 dpi) to pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil or mail them to the 108TH AIR REFUELING WING, ATTN PUBLIC AFFAIRS, 3305 FIEBELKORN ROAD, MCGUIRE AFB NJ 08641-5406.



Master Sgt. Robert Tibbetts (left), 108th recruiter, assembles one of the wing's portable recruiting kits at the Moorestown Mall during the wing's fingerprinting event at the Moorestown Mall on Oct. 31.



Detective James Dever (right), from the Moorestown Police Department, assisted the 108th recruiters and Strength Team members with this community service event.



Master Sgt. David Visconi (right), 108 CES, fingerprints a child during the wing-sponsored child fingerprinting event.

Off She Goes...

By Master Sgt. Dave Pearl
108 MXG

Another page of history was written for the 108th Air Refueling Wing on Nov. 10, 2003. It was business as usual for most of the folks on the flight line. Everyone was performing his or her usual duties, perhaps too busy to dwell on the historic event about to unfold. They all knew it was coming, but no one had time to consider it for too long. One ground crew in particular however, was completely focused on the event at hand and the impact it would have on them personally and professionally.



In the crisp, clear air of that Monday morning, Master Sgt. David Pearl and his crew launched Aircraft 57-2606. As the plane took flight, they were all

acutely aware that they probably would not see her again.

"The Volunteer," as 2606 was known, was on her way to Kansas to undergo the extensive engineering upgrades and re-engine process necessary to convert the airframe from a KC-135E to a KC-135R. On this day "The Volunteer" left the 108th flight line for the last time.

After the "E" to "R" conversion, 2606 will go to Kansas for Depot-level maintenance, then it's on to Washington state to become part of their R model Air Wing.

Aircraft 2606 was delivered to the U.S. Air Force in February of 1959. The first crew chief of the aircraft was Chief Master Sgt. Gil Leonard, now retired. He crewed the airplane until 1961 when the jet was turned over to the Puerto Rico Air National Guard. The plane remained there 1978 when she was transferred to the 170th Air Refueling Group, New Jersey Air National Guard. Master Sgt. Robert "Ralph" Kaelin, and his assistant, Staff Sgt. George Laird, maintained the aircraft from 1978 to 1991. During that time, the aircraft was chosen to be the first New Jersey aircraft to be upgraded from an "A" model to an "E" model. In March of 1983, she was delivered back to the 170th as the first "E" model on the ramp. After



Master Sgt. Kaelin's retirement in 1991, Tech. Sgt. George Laird and his crew maintained the jet until 1996. Upon Tech. Sgt. Laird's retirement, Tech. Sgt. Mark Keilblock took over the jet and maintained it until Master Sgt. David Pearl and his assistant, Tech. Sgt. Kurt Reinert, were assigned in 1998. Pearl gave her the name "The Volunteer" and, he and his team, which includes Staff Sgts. Bob Hess, Chris Smith and Airman 1st Class Tyler Chytaus maintained her until Nov. 10, 2003.

During the 26 years 2606 spent at McGuire, over nine thousand flight hours were logged on the airframe. "The Volunteer" had four primary crew chiefs assigned to her and numerous assistants and traditional Guard members. The airplane was involved in a variety of conflicts including Vietnam, Desert Shield/Storm, Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle, and The War on Terrorism, to mention just a few. She will undoubtedly continue to serve the Air Force proudly and will be a great asset to any unit in which she serves.

The 108th crew chiefs wish her well and will miss her.

Civil Engineers make snow removal a breeze

By Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz
Wing Tips Editor



Master Sgt. Teddy Butler operates the unit's new snow plow.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of the Civil Engineer Squadron, our first major snow storm of the season was no match for the 108th. With the snow accumulating at the rapid pace of up to 2 inches per hour, CES worked all through the week-end clearing the lovely white stuff.

According to Major Paul Novello, Civil Engineer Squadron Commander, "CE could not have done the job without the great support of maintenance, motor pool, aerospace ground equipment and the weather flight."



Tech. Sgt. Greg Stevens operating the snow blower in efforts to clear the flight line.

Chaplain's Corner

"The Holy Days in Babylon"

By Ch, Maj. Tom Klaasen

Since I spent last Christmas on a deployment away from my family, the memory of what it feels like is still quite fresh. It wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. Everyone at our deployed location made the best of it, and we all watched out for each other.

Unfortunately I experienced a fairly major embarrassment. I forgot my Christmas CDs at home! Since we relied on CDs and cassette tapes for the music at our religious services, I felt frantic as I planned our Christmas Eve service. I didn't have to worry. I put the word out, and soon I was overwhelmed with generosity as people lent me lots of CDs. It was actually heartwarming that I stumbled into being a practical example of how we all needed each other.

I have no doubt that each wing member will remember those who are deployed over the holiday season. I've

already heard a number of our squadrons and/or groups who are about to send care packages overseas. That seems very appropriate, and I'm sure the goodies will be received gratefully. I'm sure we'll also remember our friends in our private and public prayers.

It seems fitting to quote a Scripture passage which offers comfort to those in exile in Babylon, modern day Iraq. The passage is part of an extended discussion of how God always liberates his people from whatever bondage they find themselves in (Isaiah 40-55). The passage I have in mind is Isaiah 40. Here are the first five verses:

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

"Babylon" is often used in the Bible as a metaphor, or a symbol, for the experience of God's people as they struggle with the principalities and powers that exert their influence against them. So, the message we need to hear from God during the holy days is, "Take heart! I have overcome the world!"

May each 108th member, wherever we are, experience God's peace!

This month in Air Force history

By Staff Sgt. John Lacomia
108 ARW Wing Historian

Dec. 1, 1967 - Chief Master Sgt. Paul Airey became the first Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

Dec. 1, 1959 - The first airmen assumed the top enlisted rank, that of chief master sergeant.

Dec. 1, 1942 - The Civil Air Patrol was organized as part of the U.S. civil defense structure.

Dec. 1, 1942 - Thirty staff sergeant pilots began flying missions over the Burma "Hump."

Dec. 2, 1968 - The U.S. launched Apollo 8, the first manned space mission to orbit the moon.

Dec. 4, 1979 - The first production model of the stretched C-141B Starlifter was delivered to the Military Airlift Command.

Dec. 5, 1975 - To more fully integrate women into the Air Force, Air Training Command assigned eight female military

training instructors to two male Basic Military Training Squadrons.

Dec. 7, 1941 - Pearl Harbor Day. Imperial Japanese forces attacked Pearl Harbor.

Dec. 8, 1941 - The United States, Great Britain and Canada declare war on Japan in response to the attack on Pearl Harbor the day before.

Dec. 10, 1958 - The first domestic jet passenger service was inaugurated by National Airlines between New York and Miami.

Dec. 11, 1970 - The first color, closed-circuit educational television production studio in the Air Force was formally opened at the Air Force Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Dec. 12, 1953 - Maj. Charles E. Yeager piloted the rocket-powered Bell X-1A to a speed of Mach 2.435 (about 1,650 mph) over Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

Dec. 12, 1927 - Former enlisted member, Maj. Gen. James Fechet became chief of Air Service.

Dec. 14, 1903 - The world's first powered airplane flight, Kitty Hawk, N.C., by Wilbur Wright - 105 feet in 3.5 seconds.

Dec. 16, 1773 - The Sons of Liberty, dressed as Mohawk Indians, dump three ship loads of English Tea into Boston Harbor.

Dec. 17, 1959 - The C-5 Galaxy entered operational service with the Military Airlift Command.

Dec. 17, 1903 - The first sustained, controlled, powered airplane flight was made by Orville and Wilbur Wright, Kitty Hawk, N.C.

Dec. 19, 1892 - Fred McGuire an inmate at Sing Sing Prison, New York is executed through electrocution.

Dec. 20, 1941 - The American Volunteer Group (Claire Chennault's Flying Tigers), entered combat for the first time, in action over Kunming, China.

Dec. 31, 1948 - The 100,000 flight of the Berlin Airlift was made.

TAG's Vision and Objectives

By Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth
The Adjutant General of New Jersey

Serving as your Adjutant General for the past 21 months has been the greatest privilege and honor of my career. Together, we have and will continue to witness fundamental changes affecting the National Guard both as an organization and institution.

During this time, the Army and Air components remain fully engaged in a range of state and federal missions. Every member of the New Jersey National Guard must have an awareness of the direction our organization is moving and how we will sustain our sterling record of mission successes.

My philosophy of command centers on the core values of: Honesty, Integrity, Institutional Loyalty, Diversity and Safety. Equally important, though, is the health, morale and well being of our soldiers and airmen.

My top priorities for the next two years and beyond include:

- **STRENGTH:** Strength underpins every endeavor we undertake and is the measurement used nationally to assess future force relevance. The strength equation requires a balancing of recruiting, retention, attrition and essential elements of sound force management.

- **READINESS:** The readiness of our soldiers, airmen, facilities and equipment is paramount. We must remain relevant, accessible and a viable asset to both US Northern Command and our gaining major commands.

- **HOMELAND SECURITY and HOMELAND DEFENSE:** These programs are top priorities shared by the Governor, President and me. Security at home and abroad is the number one objective for our military.

- **MOBILIZATION:** The calendar year 2004 will bring the largest mobilization and deployment of our New Jersey Army National Guard troops since World War II. Over 2,000 of our personnel are expected to be mobilized. These projected deployments come on the heels of significant 2002-03 New Jersey Air National Guard deployments.

- **JOINT OPERATING CAPABILITY (JFHQs):** On Oct. 1, 2003, the New Jersey National Guard established a Joint Force Headquarters. Doing so makes the National Guard more accessible and reliable to other agencies prosecuting the Global War on Terrorism and will enable us to restructure our organization for increased viability and

relevancy. This is the first step in moving the Guard toward Joint Operations.

The five priorities above lie within our ability to address locally as well as directly influence. Yet, we should not limit our energy and scope only to those areas under our control. Staying relevant means aggressively pursuing modern, emerging weapon systems, infostructure and infrastructure. Your senior leadership will diligently endeavor to attract the best and most capable missions, facilities and equipment for the enhancement of our most important asset - you, the men and women of the New Jersey National Guard.

Your superb effort, loyal support and unshakable patriotism, so evident during the past 21 months, are truly commendable. A record of superior operational performances, coupled with outstanding results and ratings achieved on recent inspections, clearly postures the New Jersey National Guard as a ready, reliable and relevant force now and into the foreseeable future.

"Click It or Ticket" on Fort Dix Army to enforce seatbelt use

Drivers and passengers on Army posts not wearing a seatbelt during the holiday season can expect harsher penalties, according to officials at the U.S. Army Safety Center. The Army is aggressively enforcing seatbelt use by joining the nationwide "Click It or Ticket" campaign.

Military police will issue tickets to drivers and passengers who are not buckled up. Along with the ticket, offenders at some installations can expect other penalties, such as suspension of their on-post driving privileges. For more information, see

http://www.army.mil/ocpa/read.php?story_id_key=5459.

Holiday visit with the vets

The Vineland Veterans Home holiday visit is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 15. Celebrate the holidays with the veterans and see the smiles on their faces as you wish them Happy Holidays. Departure from the 108th is scheduled for 10 a.m. in front of Bldg. 3333, with a planned arrival at Veterans Home of 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Departure from the Veterans Home will be between 2:30 to 3 p.m., arriving at McGuire AFB around 4 to 4:15 p.m. Contact Master Sgt. Cheryl Adler at 609-754-6867 for more information.

Free fingerprinting at the mall

By Maj. Denise Waggoner
108 ARW Community Manager

As part of the wing's continuing commitment to support local communities, members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing, hosted a free child fingerprinting event at the Moorestown Mall on Oct. 31.



Master Sgt. David Visconi, 108th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Master Sgt. James McCaffery and Senior

Master Sgt. David Visconi, 108 CES, fingerprints a child at the Moorestown Mall.

Airman David Tallman, both from the 108th Maintenance Squadron, were assisted by Detective James Dever from the Moorestown Police Department during this community event.

Members of the public were invited to stop by the 108th's new recruiting station, also located in the Moorestown Mall, for information about opportunities and benefits available in the New Jersey Air National Guard.

Providing this free public service is in keeping with the Air National Guard's commitment and service to our communities and state.



A little piece of history

By Melvin D. Sylvester
Senior Master Sgt. (Ret) NJANG

Recently, three representatives from the New Jersey Air National Guard Heritage Center met with retired Maj. Larry Guarino and his wife, Evelyn, and videotaped their interview. As part of the NJANG's ongoing efforts to capture and preserve the histories of the state's units through the videotaping of oral histories the Heritage Center volunteers learned an interesting tale about this retired ANG aviator. They learned of the couple's married lives together during World War II, through the Korean War, the Vietnam War and to the present day.

On the morning of June 14, 1965 Maj. Larry Guarino took off from Korat Airbase, Thailand in his F-105D *Thunderchief* for a bombing mission over North Vietnam near Hanoi. This would be Guarino's fiftieth and last mission of the war. While attacking the target, his aircraft was hit by enemy ground fire and he was forced to eject from the uncontrollable aircraft. He was captured shortly after he landed and taken prisoner.

This was the beginning of his 2,801 days of brutal captivity where he was



This photo was taken of Maj. Larry Guarino and his wife, Evelyn, during World War II.

subjected to both physical and mental torture as a POW in North Vietnam. This would also be the start of Mrs. Evelyn Guarino becoming a POW wife and having to accept the full responsibilities of raising their four sons on her own. Throughout their ordeal, their unflinching faith and love for each other gave them the strength to endure even during the darkest moments.

Both Larry and Evelyn have written books about their experiences during their nearly eight years of separation. They also tell of their joyful reunion after his release from North Vietnam and how they dealt with the difficult aftermath of Larry's imprisonment.

Larry served in the US Army Air Force, the New Jersey Air National Guard, and the US Air Force a career that has spanned over 30 years of dedicated military service to this nation. During those years, Evelyn, the wife of a career military officer, also served with dedication to the military and the nation.

A copy of Larry and Evelyn's videotaped interview will be added to the Colonel Lou Vocino NJANG Heritage Center's oral history collection located at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.

Do's and don'ts of winter driving

Courtesy of the 108 ARW Safety Office

No matter what drive, slippery roads and treacherous conditions are a fact of life for winter travel. When snowy weather hits, you have to be prepared for the worst. Surviving winter driving is no easy feat. Your car also has to be ready.

Carry what you need:

Outfitting your car for winter mishaps is an inexpensive and sensible way to be safety wise. Here's a checklist of what to carry on board:

- High-energy snacks
- Safety flares
- Booster cables
- Windshield washer fluid
- Plastic drop sheet
- Warm blanket
- Extra gloves, scarf, hat, socks
- Lock de-icer
- Gas line anti-freeze

- Snow brush and ice scraper
- Salt or sand
- Utility candles with lighter or matches
- Flashlight
- Heavy nylon rope
- Small shovel

Drive to Survive:

Defensive driving in winter is the first rule of safety. Speed kills and not even advanced traction systems are a match for slippery roads. Here are some defensive driving do's and don'ts:

- Do the speed limit. Reduce speed further for snow-covered roads.
- Don't rule the road. Tailgating, abrupt lane changes and other sudden moves can disrupt traffic flow, causing others to lose control.
- Do use running lights, front and rear, in all snowy weather.
- Don't take the other driver for granted. Be ready to avoid danger.

-Do learn how to handle your car in a skid. If you've never done it, how can you expect to know what to do in an emergency?

-Don't take safety for granted. No one is immune to mishap.

-Do pay full attention to the road. Distractions can be deadly.

-Don't talk on the cell phone or use any other hand-held device. Keep both hands (and feet) free for driving.

-Do regular maintenance checks on your car tire air pressure, windshield washer fluid, oil and antifreeze.

-Don't let snow obstruct your vision or lights. Clear away all snow before driving so you can see and be seen.

-Do take your time. Don't rush winter weather trips.

-Don't take road conditions for granted. Check the forecast first.



Happy Holidays from the Public Affairs Office!

**108TH AIR REFUELING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
3305 FIEBELKORN ROAD
MCGUIRE AFB NJ
08641-5406**

